

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CAIRO 09692 190922Z

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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R 190846Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5331

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 9692

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EG, US

SUBJECT: ISMET SADAT AND FORD PROJECT

REF: STATE 176881

1. ISMET SADAT IS A YOUNGER BROTHER OF PRESIDENT SADAT AND WORKS FOR ARAB CONTRACTORS (OSMAN'S OUTFIT). WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT ISMET IS DOING IN US AT THIS TIME EXCEPT PERHAPS SELF PROMOTION.

2. AS DEPT NOTES, ISMET'S APPROACH IS SIMILAR TO THAT MADE LAST JANURY BY ZAIN SADAT. IN OUR JUDGMENT, IT OUGHT TO BE TREATED THE SAME WAY. WE CANNOT EXCLUDE THE POSSIBILITY THAT ISMET (OR EVEN ZAIN) TALKED WITH THE PRESIDENT TO INDICATE AN INTEREST IN OBTAINING FORD FRANCHISE AND THAT SADAT, IN GOOD ARAB FAMILY FASHION, INDICATED HE HAD NO OBJECTION TO ISMET'S DOING SO. WE HAVE NO EVIDENCE TO SUGGEST THE PRESIDENT IS PUSHING ISMET'S CASE, ALTHOUGH IT SHOULD BE APPRECIATED THIS IS A HIGHLY SENSITIVE ISSUE AND DIFFICULT TO GET A CLEAR READING ON. IT IS REGRETTABLE THAT SADAT'S FAMILY TENDS TO USE ITS BROTHER'S POSITION TO TRY TO FURTHER ITS OWN INTERESTS AND SOMETIMES SUCCEEDS IN DOING SO. SADAT'S FAMILY, INCLUDING MRS. SADAT'S ALLEGED SILENT PARTNER BUSINESS INTERESTS, IS DAMAGING THE PRESIDENT'S REPUTATION AMONG THE EGYPTIAN PUBLIC.

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3. WE HAVE NO REASON TO BELIEVE THAT ISMET CAN

APPRECIABLY FURTHER THE FORD PROJECT AND BELIEVE FORD  
OUGHT TO BE ADVISED NOT TO RESPOND TO THE ISMET/WALLER  
APPROACH. IT WOULD NOT HELP FORD'S IMAGE HERE OR IN  
ARAB WORLD IF ONE OF SADAT'S BROTHERS ENDS UP OBTAINING  
FRANCHISE. IN OUR JUDGMENT, SHOULD ISMET OR WALLER  
APPROACH FORD AGAIN, LATTER SHOULD (A) REITERATE IT IS  
DEALING WITH DESIGNATED GOE AUTHORITIES ON FORD PROJECT  
AND (B) STRESS THE DAMAGE IT COULD DO TO PRESIDENT SADAT'S  
REPUTATION IN EGYPT AND ARAB WORLD AND ABILITY TO DO SOME-  
THING ABOUT BOYCOTT IF IT BECOMES KNOWN THAT A MEMBER OF  
HIS FAMILY WISHES DIRECTLY BENEFIT THEREFROM. AFTER  
CONSIDERABLE PESTERING, ZAIN SADAT FINALLY GAVE UP.  
HOPEFULLY, A SIMILARLY FIRM POSITION WITH ISMET WILL ALSO  
CAUSE HIM TO DO SO.  
EILTS

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY, FOREIGN INVESTMENT, INVESTMENT CLIMATE, BOYCOTTS, POPULAR RESENTMENT, CAT-C  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 19 JUL 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** KelleyW0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976CAIRO09692  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** OA  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** P850107-1653  
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**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Line Count:** 76  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION NODS  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** NODIS  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** NODIS  
**Reference:** 76 STATE 176881  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** KelleyW0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 09 JUN 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <09 JUN 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <26 OCT 2004 by KelleyW0>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ISMET SADAT AND FORD PROJECT  
**TAGS:** EINV, PINT, PFOR, EG, US, FORD MOTOR CO, (SADAT, ANWAR), (SADAT, ISMET), (SADAT, ZAIN)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006